

**OKLAHOMA COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH**  
**OFFICE OF JUVENILE SYSTEMS OVERSIGHT**  
**AMENDED REPORT**

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**Report Release Date: October 25, 2016**

**Review of the Death of Paizlie Forson**

**Carter County, Oklahoma**

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**General Information**

The Office of Juvenile Systems Oversight (OJSO) received a request for a public report regarding the death of Paizlie Forson. One felony count of Child Neglect and one felony count of Unlawful Possession of Controlled Dangerous Substance were filed in the Carter County District Court on May 26, 2016, against Victoria Dawn Pipes, the child's mother. On September 1, 2016, the Carter County District Attorney amended the charges and included two additional felony counts of Child Neglect.

**Authorization**

The following is a summary of the actions taken by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS); the dates and outcome of investigations and actions by the OKDHS; the actions taken by the district attorney; the dates and summary of judicial proceedings; and the rulings of the court, as authorized by 10A O.S. Section 1-6-105.

**Identifiers**

Child's name:	Paizlie Kay Rayne Forson
Age at time of incident:	Two months old
Date of death:	May 25, 2016
Sibling One:	Nine years old
Sibling Two:	Nine years old
Sibling Three:	Two years old
Person Responsible for the Child (PRFC):	Victoria Pipes

The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY) did not become aware of this family until after the death incident.

**Death Incident**

On May 25, 2016, the OKDHS received a report that two month old Paizlie was brought to an emergency medical facility after being found unresponsive in her crib. Reportedly, the crib also contained pillows and large stuffed animals when Paizlie was discovered

unresponsive. At the facility, rescue efforts were performed but were unsuccessful. Paizlie was pronounced deceased by a medical professional. Also reported was that law enforcement had to convince the child's mother, Ms. Pipes, to come to the hospital with the child because she did not want to leave the home.

The OKDHS accepted this as a Priority I Investigation. The Child Protective Services (CPS) supervisor documented that a 9-1-1 call was received from Ms. Pipes at 8:06 a.m. on May 25, 2016. She was reportedly hysterical and unable to perform rescue efforts on her child, so the responding officer performed resuscitation efforts until emergency transportation arrived to transport the child to the hospital. The supervisor documented contact with Ms. Pipes at the family home after she returned from the hospital. According to the documentation, law enforcement had requested a search warrant of the home and refused to allow Ms. Pipes entry to the home. Reportedly, Ms. Pipes cussed at both law enforcement and the CPS supervisor and walked away from the home but was eventually retrieved by law enforcement. The CPS supervisor also documented that during the execution of the search warrant, law enforcement found a bag of marijuana, a bag of methamphetamine, a pipe associated with methamphetamine use and a straw, all found within reach of the children.

The CPS supervisor documented additional contact with Ms. Pipes at the Ardmore police headquarters later on May 25, 2016. The supervisor documented observation of an Ardmore police detective's questioning of Ms. Pipes because of the hostility she presented to the OKDHS supervisor. The supervisor documented that Ms. Pipes stated she overslept her alarm that morning because she stayed awake very late the previous evening. Reportedly, Ms. Pipes admitted to law enforcement that she smoked "a joint" the previous evening but denied that the children were home at the time. Ms. Pipes also reported that she ingested methamphetamines the previous day and was also aware of the illegal substances and paraphernalia found at her home. According to the documentation, Ms. Pipes believed that some of the items found in the home by law enforcement belonged to a gentleman living in the home with the family.

The OKDHS documented that Siblings One, Two, and Three were home at the time of Paizlie's death but were allowed to leave the scene with their father. The OKDHS documented that interviews with the siblings occurred later on May 25, 2016, and none of the children indicated awareness of drug use or drug paraphernalia in the home. According to the documentation, Ms. Pipes was arrested by law enforcement for child neglect and drug related charges on May 25, 2016.

The CPS worker Unsubstantiated the child death allegation as to Ms. Pipes, and Substantiated a Threat of Harm allegation by Ms. Pipes as to Paizlie and Siblings One, Two, and Three. The overall finding of the investigation was Substantiated and the OKDHS requested emergency custody of Siblings One, Two, and Three. The Carter County District Attorney's office filed a juvenile deprived petition regarding this matter on June 2, 2016.

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner of Oklahoma (OCME) generated a report regarding Paizlie's death on July 29, 2016. The OCME's report documented that the

manner of Paizlie's death was unknown and a probable cause of death could not be determined.

### **Prior Involvement of the PRFC with the Oklahoma Department of Human Services**

Victoria Pipes was previously involved with the OKDHS and three of the reports were pertinent to this report as they related to allegations of child neglect because of Threat of Harm due to Substance Abuse.

The first pertinent report was received by the OKDHS on February 6, 2015. The report alleged that Ms. Pipes and the father of Siblings One, Two, and Three separated and Ms. Pipes had a new boyfriend. Reportedly, the couple regularly used methamphetamines and the previous day Ms. Pipes' boyfriend was arrested for assault and battery because of an incident in which the couple engaged. It was reported that Ms. Pipes felt the situation was overstated and intended to allow the boyfriend to reside with her in the family home after his release from jail. The report also indicated that Siblings One, Two, and Three reported they were often hungry, did not have food in the home, and the home was extremely filthy. Finally, it was alleged that Ms. Pipes left Sibling Three in the care of known methamphetamine users. The OKDHS accepted this report as a Priority II Investigation.

The OKDHS documented that Ms. Pipes denied all of the allegations and also denied a romantic relationship with the man identified on the initial report as her boyfriend. Reportedly, Ms. Pipes moved into the home of a friend. The OKDHS documented that the man identified as a boyfriend reported the two lived in a local motel as a couple until they had no more money and moved together into the friend's home. The OKDHS also documented that the boyfriend reported active and heavy methamphetamine use. According to the documentation, Siblings One, Two, and Three lived in the home sometimes but usually lived with their father. The OKDHS made a finding of Unsubstantiated on this investigation.

The second pertinent report was received by the OKDHS on March 14, 2016. The report documented that when Paizlie was born on March 14, 2016, the child's urine test was positive for amphetamines, methamphetamines, and marijuana. At the time of the report, the child's meconium was still under testing for evidence of drug exposure. The OKDHS accepted this report as a Priority I Investigation. According to the documentation, Ms. Pipes reported attending all of her prenatal appointments and there were no delivery complications. Also, Ms. Pipes reported that marijuana, used as pain management, was the only drug she had recently consumed. The CPS worker documented that Ms. Pipes reported she had not used methamphetamines since she was a teenager, but during the week prior to Paizlie's birth, "there was methamphetamine being used around her...but the kids were with their father somewhere else." Ms. Pipes also reportedly told the CPS worker that the positive methamphetamine result may have happened if someone added methamphetamine to the marijuana cigarette she smoked the week prior to Paizlie's birth. The OKDHS documented additional contact with Ms. Pipes at her home on March 17, 2016, but did not document observation of Paizlie at that time. The OKDHS documented additional contact with Ms. Pipes and observation of Paizlie on May 13, 2016. The CPS worker

documented that there were no concerns regarding Paizlie's health or safety in her mother's care. The CPS worker Substantiated the Threat of Harm allegation due to the mother's substance use. The CPS worker documented that Comprehensive Home Based Services (CHBS), counseling and a substance use assessment were recommended for the family. The Carter County Child Welfare Services District Director approved a referral for CHBS services for the family on May 12, 2016. The OKDHS documented that the referral to the CHBS provider indicated there were no safety threats in the home.

The third pertinent report was received by the OKDHS on March 16, 2016, and was related to Paizlie's birth and alleged that Ms. Pipes was using methamphetamines during her pregnancy with Paizlie. The report also documented there was concern that the home contained an active methamphetamine lab. The OKDHS Screened-Out this report due to the open investigation, identified in this report as the March 14, 2016 report.

### **Judicial proceedings prior to the child's death incident**

The OJSO did not identify any other relevant judicial proceedings regarding Ms. Pipes.